

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1661

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 2830

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP, PO

SUBJ: SPANISH OBSERVERS AT PORTUGUESE ELECTIONS

REF: MADRID 22

1. MFA SOURCE STATES FOUR MODERATE SPANISH POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE ACCEPTED PERSONAL INVITATIONS FROM MARIO SOARES AND SA CARNEIRO TO BOSERVE ELECTIONS IN PORTUGAL. INVITEES ARE JOSE MARIO ARMERO, ATTORNEY AND DIRECTOR OF EUROPA PRESS; MANUEL CANTARERO DEL CASTILLO, LEADER OF "SPANISH SOCIAL REFORM" POLITICAL ASSOCIATION; LUIS GONZALEZ SEARA, PUBLISHER OF LIBERAL WEEKLY CAMBIO 16; AND NICOLAS FRANCO, LIBERAL NATIONAL COUNSELOR NEPHEW OF CAUDILLO AND SON OF TWICE FORMER AMBASSADOR TO PORTUGAL. ALL ARE MODERATE REFORM-MINDED POLITICIANS, BUT ONLY CANTARERO HAS EVEN SLIGHT SOCIALIST IDENTIFICATION. SOURCE ADDED THAT SPANISH POPULAR SOCIALIST PARTY'S RAUL MORODO ALSO INVITED, BUT UNABLE TO ACCEPT BECAUSE OF GOVT'S RECENT WITHDRAWAL OF HIS PASSPORT FOR PARTICIPATING IN JUNTA DECOCRATICA MEETING WITH EC COM-MISSION IN STRASBOURG.

2. COMMENT: NOTEWORTHY IS ABSENCE OF ANY DELEGATE FROM PSP'S
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SPANISH COUNTERPART, PSOE, WHICH ALSO ONLY SPANISH

SOCIALIST PARTY RECOGNIZED BY SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL. WHILE REASON STILL UNEXPLAINED, FAIRLY CLEAR RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO LEADING IBERIAN SOCIALIST PARTIES HAVE REMAINED COOL SINCE PSOE GIVEN BACK SEAT IN FAVOR OF SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY AND POPULAR SOCIALIST SPLINTER PARTY AT PSP CONGRESS IN LISBON IN DECEMBER 1974 (REFTEL).

3. MORODO, IN PARTICULAR, HAD BEEN FREQUENT VISITOR TO PORTUGAL AND HAD SEVERAL PHOTOGRAPHS PUBLISHED IN SPAIN OF HIM TOGETHER WITH SOARES. BECAUSE OF HIS CLOSE TIES WITH SOARES, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HE ENGINEERED INVITATIONS AND EXCLUSION OF RIVAL PSOE.
STABLER

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Message Attributes

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